

**Zoning Code Figure J –  
Letters Regarding Domestic Animal Keeping Standards**

Burns  
11398 Turningbend Way  
Riverside, CA 92505

# Fax

**To:** Diane Jenkins

**From:** Laura Burns

**Fax:** 826-5981

**Pages:** Cover only

**Phone:**

**Date:** 2/17/2005

**Re:** Animal keeping change of zoning

**CC:**

☐ Urgent    ☐ For Review    ☐ Please Comment    ☐ Please Reply    ☐ Please Recycle

I wanted to express my opposition to the proposed change of zoning for animal keeping in the City of Riverside. Would you please consider exempting indoor animals from the proposed change? It's intrusive to be told what we can do in the privacy of our own home, and generally indoor only animals aren't a nuisance to neighbors and the community. Also, it would be nice if you would consider putting the fees you collect from the conditional use permits towards funding the city's spay/neuter facility.

*Laura Burns*

951-689-8755 - home

951-533-3118 - cell

FEB 23 2005

February 21, 2005

ATT: Diane or Barbara  
City of Riverside Planning Commission

FROM: Judy Bryant  
4607 Edgewood Place  
Riverside, CA 92506  
951-683-2024



RE: Proposed General Plan's  
Restrictions on RV storage on private property and  
Limitations on ownership of domestic animals

I feel the proposed restrictions on RV parking and the limits on the numbers of household pets would be good things for Riverside. These new measures are desperately needed, and so is better enforcement. Based on the experience at my household, it does not seem that Riverside County Animal Control is ready to enforce the City's present codes regarding animals. In addition, the Riverside Police Department's Traffic Unit does not seem to be willing or able to enforce the RV parking rules that are already in effect. However, I do not think that these difficulties with enforcement should put off the adoption of new regulations. I think enforcement issues should be a consideration of the City Council's when approving such regulations. (Maybe the enforcement measures could be spelled out in the ordinances when they are approved by the City Council.)

Further, better training of City and County enforcement officials with regard to new ordinances would be a good idea. Regarding incidents in our neighborhood, we had reference copies of the ordinances at times when the Police or Animal Control officers seemed unaware of what these ordinances actually said. (For example, we had a problem with out of state RV owners cutting the street trees in order to park an overly large vehicle on our street. The police seemed unaware of the City's ownership of the street trees, and what role they might have in protecting them. In incidents at our home, Animal Control officials seemed to be unaware of the City's ordinances regarding animals and were more interested in lecturing us on their preferred practices, apparently so we would not file further complaints.) Indeed, the City would probably be better off with it's own Animal Control department. The County seems to want to promote pet freedom and ownership with very little restriction.

As President Madison once said "If men were angels there would be no need of governments". The reality is that Riverside has some very hostile and unreasonable people that display strong interest in these issues. They simply do not believe that others have rights, or are even entitled to opposing opinions.

While I wish to express my views on planning issues, I feel I could never attend a public meeting regarding these issues. The hostility that I have heard – and experienced on my own street - regarding violations of RV parking and animal restrictions would have me in fear of my life and limb. Therefore, I feel that a write-in citizen response program, inclusion on a City election ballot, or some other type of public opinion process, would be a better choice than public meetings. The Planning Commission, in my opinion, would not and does not receive an accurate view of the public's wishes solely through meetings attended primarily by this aggressive element.

cc: Mr. Dom Betro  
City Councilman , Ward 1

**Barbara Milosevic - Zoning change**

**From:** <MACGC1@aol.com>  
**To:** <planinfo@riversideca.gov>  
**Date:** 02/17/2005 12:39 PM  
**Subject:** Zoning change

The new zoning proposal concerning limiting the ownership of dogs and cats to four animals is OPPOSED by both my wife and myself.

Animals that are kept inside , in a clean invironment , should not be limited any more than children. If the animals become a nuisance, there are already remedies for this, but if the animals do not create a nuisance, there should not be an invasion of their domain.

Please consider this a very strong OPPOSITION to this proposed change in the zoning .

Michael A. and Linda S. Christian

**Diane Jenkins - Limit on animals in home**

**From:** <Ecolemanrd@aol.com>  
**To:** <dijenkins@riversideca.gov>  
**Date:** 02/17/2005 3:54:58 PM  
**Subject:** Limit on animals in home

Hello,

I am unable to come to the City of Riverside Planning Commission Public Hearing tonight but want my voice to be heard.

I've heard that the city of Riverside is currently in the process of adopting a new General Plan and Zoning Ordinance which will limit the number of allowable pets within the City of Riverside to a total of 4 animals.

I not only object to such an ordinance, I am outraged that it could be adopted without public knowledge or approval by the citizens of Riverside.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,  
Ellen J. Coleman  
6601 Lassen Ct.  
Riverside, CA 92506  
951 684-3460  
[Ecolemanrd@aol.com](mailto:Ecolemanrd@aol.com)

**Diane Jenkins - Pet restrictions**

**From:** <Ellen1993C@aol.com>  
**To:** <dijenkins@riversideca.gov>  
**Date:** 02/17/2005 3:56:43 PM  
**Subject:** Pet restrictions

I am completely against any restriction to limit the number of animals that people can own. This is totally unacceptable. I have lived in Riverside for over 30 years and have had pets the entire time. I will help to vote out any politician that seeks to get this measure passed.  
Ellen Currie

Rcvd @ hearing  
2-17-05



GRANDFATHERED  
MINOR CUP  
FEREL CATS

February 17, 2005

To the Planning Commission, Staff and residents:

My name is Laura Pearson Densmore, and I am the Executive Director at the Riverside Humane Society Pet Adoption Center. We are in the non-profit business of finding good homes for good pets. None of the pets we adopt out leave our facility without being spayed or neutered, along with all vaccinations. We screen potential adopters to ensure that their homes are fenced, they know about leash laws and they understand the importance of indoor cat keeping. We also offer humane training techniques for free.

We offer volunteer opportunities such as foster homes for cats and dogs, our free Pet Behavior Helpline that helps owners understand the needs of their pets when there are problems.

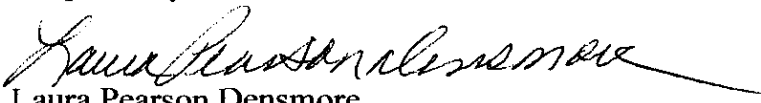
Why do we do all of this? Because we know the pets are not the problem, it most often is the owner.

Before limiting the amount of "pets" one may keep per household, I can see the General Plan Update being bogged down by this issue, which is sure to bring many people forward.

I would like to offer an alternative, which is to pull together a Task Force of interested parties (County Animal Control, rescue groups, foster caregivers, breeders, etc.) to make recommendations to the Planning Department, Code Enforcement and ultimately the Mayor and City Council to put together something that will work for everyone.

Potentially what could happen is an Educational Program that emphasizes spaying and neutering of pets, rather than a punitive system. Maybe there should be a general limit, but also exemptions to foster homes (generally not covered by a non-profit), rescue groups with a minor CUP, a breeder's business license, etc. These are just a few thoughts that spring to mind.

I hope I may be of assistance.

  
Laura Pearson Densmore  
Executive Director  
Riverside Humane Society  
Pet Adoption Center  
(951) 684-4340 Ext. 208

**Barbara Milosevic - Planning Commission General Plan 2025**

**From:** "Irene Liebenberg" <catslaves@earthlink.net>  
**To:** <BMilo@riversideca.gov>  
**Date:** 02/17/2005 9:04 AM  
**Subject:** Planning Commission General Plan 2025

February 17, 2005

To: City of Riverside Planning Commission  
Subject: General Plan 2025 Limit on number of domestic animals

I have become aware that the proposed General Plan 2025 includes a proposal that domestic animals be limited to four per residence. I strenuously object to this limitation for the following reasons:

1. Limits on numbers of domestic animals do not make better pet owners.
2. Limits on numbers of domestic animals do not reduce the number of stray and homeless animals.
3. People who have several pets are often the ones who are willing to adopt another.
4. Limiting the number of domestic animals will decrease the number of homes available.

If a number has to be designated, then four is a ridiculously low number and seems arbitrary. How could such a limit possibly be controlled without costing a fortune? What is the significance of the number four? Is this someone's definition of the ideal domestic pet family? Where did this number come from and who proposed it? Such limits infringe on my personal rights to choose the number of domestic animals I can successfully care for.

The general plan should include language to control domestic animal breeders. If individuals are breeding and selling animals, they should pay to be licensed and inspected regularly. This would help control rampant pet over-population by individuals who try to breed and sell and do not know what they are doing. Often these individuals breed their animals too frequently and inexpertly producing litters of unwanted, unhealthy and un-saleable kittens and puppies who end up at animal shelters.

Some enlightened California cities are adopting laws that benefit animals. The City of Riverside should take a pro-active stance that will reduce the number of homeless and stray animals by financially supporting neuter-spay programs. That is the only way to reduce pet over-population.

Please do not approve any language in the General Plan 2025 that will limit domestic animals in individual residences. I am not able to attend this evening's planning commission meeting, but I would like to make my feelings on this issue heard.

Sincerely,

Irene Liebenberg  
6076 Brusca Place  
Riverside, CA 92506  
(951) 682-4623



**Barbara Milosevic - Planning Commission**

**From:** "Irene Liebenberg" <catslaves@earthlink.net>  
**To:** <bmilo@riversideca.gov>  
**Date:** 02/17/2005 10:02 AM  
**Subject:** Planning Commission

I strongly object to the proposal in General Plan 2025 to limit the number of pets per household to 4. While other California cities have taken progressive and positive steps to help animals, this would be a very negative one. I sincerely hope the Commission will reconsider such a plan.

Jeanne Trobbe

6076 Brusca Pl.

Riverside, CA 92506

**Diane Jenkins - Animal keeping in Zoning**

**From:** Maria Lum <Maria.Lum@lsa-assoc.com>  
**To:** <dijenkins@riversideca.gov>  
**Date:** 03/09/2005 8:12:33 AM  
**Subject:** Animal keeping in Zoning

Hello Ms. Jenkins,

I am thanking the Planning Commission for changing the animal keeping code back to unlimited. I am sure a better provision can be written through Environmental Health, Animal Services and the HSUS Task Force and more public input from rescue groups. Definitely, puppy or kitten mills should be shut down, unlicensed breeders and persons that allow their pets to breed unplanned should be stopped and fined.

Persons with **spayed, vaccinated, licensed** animals that have **adequate facilities (shelter, fencing)** and are responsible and money to have **healthy pets** that are **not a nuisance** to the neighbors should be allowed to keep them. This would relieve the number of animals going to the shelters. Most of my dogs were rescued from the shelter.

Maria A. Lum  
P.O. Box 664  
Riverside, CA 92502  
951-682-3408  
[frank\\_maria94@yahoo.com](mailto:frank_maria94@yahoo.com)

**Diane Jenkins - Feb. 17 Planning Commission Meeting and Proposed New General Plan and Zoning Ordinance**

**From:** Carlotta Mellon <carlotta.mellon@sbcglobal.net>  
**To:** D Jenkins <dijenkins@riversideca.gov>  
**Date:** 02/17/2005 11:10:18 AM  
**Subject:** Feb. 17 Planning Commission Meeting and Proposed New General Plan and Zoning Ordinance  
**CC:** Kristin Tillquist <KTillquist@riversideca.gov>

I understand that a section of the proposed new General Plan and Zoning Ordinance contains a section that limits the allowable number of pets within Riverside's City limits to 4. This seems very unreasonable and also an infringement on 1st amendment and homeowner rights. It of great concern to those of us who adopt shelter animals and serve as foster parents to litters of kittens. Also, stray or feral cats will "adopt" a family and that cannot be controlled. Cats in particular can be kept indoors and would not pose a nuisance.

If there is a problem with certain pet owners, then fines or other actions should be instigated rather than penalizing all pet owners.

I have a previous commitment that prevents me from attending this evening's meeting, so please convey my concern and opposition to the commission. Also, please confirm that such a section does exist in the new plan and ordinance.

Thank you so much. Sincerely, Carlotta Mellon

**Diane Jenkins - General Plan 2005 PLANNING CASE P04-0178**

**From:** Corinne Parker  
**To:** Jenkins, Diane; Ramos, Andrea  
**Date:** 02/17/2005 4:58:29 PM  
**Subject:** General Plan 2005 PLANNING CASE P04-0178  
**CC:** Gutierrez, Ken; Schiavone, Frank

Riverside Connected Call Center received a call from:

Robert Mlynarski  
8424 Monique Ct  
Riverside CA 92508  
(951) 653-3385

Mr. Mlynieski wants his Councilmember and the City Planning Commission to know he is opposed to limiting cats and dogs and restricting recreational vehicle parking in residential neighborhoods. Mr. Mlynieski feels these issues should be decided by vote, by the residents of Riverside.

Corinne M. Parker  
RIVERSIDE CONNECTED!  
Call Center, City Mgrs Office  
City of Riverside  
(951) 826-5311

**From:** Lynn Morgan <tervlvr@juno.com>  
**To:** <dijenkins@riversideca.gov>  
**Date:** 02/17/2005 1:37:41 PM  
**Subject:** Riverside planning

To Diane Jenkins  
>From Lynn Morgan

Ref: Riverside Zoning:

I am opposed to limiting the number of dogs in Riverside. I have more than 4 dogs and enough room for them to exercise without annoying the neighbors.

We moved to Riverside because we were allowed more than 4 dogs.

Maybe those people who live in apartments or close quarters might annoy their neighbors, but those of us who have "farm" animals also have more than 4 dogs.

Again, I am against changing any planning or zoning ordinance which would affect the number of dogs or number of animals.

My phone # is 951-509-0241

Lynn Morgan  
2/17/05

**Barbara Milosevic - Animal Keeping -Tonight's General Plan**

**From:** <Teresa.Morton@rcc.edu>  
**To:** <bmilo@riversideca.gov>  
**Date:** 02/17/2005 3:21 PM  
**Subject:** Animal Keeping -Tonight's General Plan

In reference to tonight's Public Hearing, specifically the General Plan's "Specific Land Use Provision", Article VII, Chapter 19.420 (Animal Keeping), I am saddened that the Board would pick this issue to generate a regulation limiting the number of cats, dogs, and pot-bellied pigs.

1. The reason most people have more than 3 or 4 pets is because they are ANIMAL LOVERS.
2. The people I know that have more than 4 cats and/or dogs have rescued them from certain death.
3. Efforts should be focused on illegal breeding.
4. Efforts should be focused on spay and neuter programs.
5. There should be more attention given to punishment for animal cruelty.

This is such a petty issue in relation to larger, more serious issues regarding domestic pets.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

*Teresa Morton*  
(951) 222-8729  
Fax (951) 328-3507

**Diane Jenkins - Pet limit**

**From:** "Georgia Schaefer" <georgia@creativeelegance.com>  
**To:** <dijenkins@riversideca.gov>  
**Date:** 02/18/2005 12:49:56 PM  
**Subject:** Pet limit

To Whom It May Concern: I realize the meeting regarding the limit on pets was held last night. I don't know what the outcome may have been, but I just wanted to put in my two cents that I am against such a limit. Four pets total for a household isn't very much these days. Most people I know have multi pet households. I don't know what reason you have for wanting to limit the number unless it has to do with trying to control pet over population, but that can be done in different ways. Again, the people I know as well as myself are very responsible and have our pets spayed and neutered. In addition cats are kept inside and if outside dogs are in a run or a well fenced back yard. As long as there are people who chose not to spay or neuter, there will be many more pets that need homes than there are now by limiting how many someone can have. Thank you for listening.

Georgia

**From:** Constance Scott <cjscott@sbcglobal.net>  
**Date:** Mon Feb 21, 2005 08:00:48 PM US/Pacific  
**To:** www.riversideca.gov  
**Subject:** changes to general plan and zoning code

*I tried  
(unsuccessfully)  
to send this  
earlier in the  
week.*

To The Riverside Planning Commission and Elected City Officials: Thank you! I sincerely hope that you will stick to your guns and do what is necessary to protect the health and safety of all Riverside citizens and preserve the beauty of our residential neighborhoods. I have lived in Riverside for over twenty years now and have observed many changes in behaviors and attitudes that are disturbing, and I'm not the only one. Many people I talk to say that they can't wait to get out of here. Just what kind of city do we want to live in? One where everyone does what they darn well please, regardless of the impact on their neighbors or the larger community? With regard to the issues: 1) A limit of 4 domestic pets is more than reasonable. Some people have no concept of the torture that they put their pets (and their neighbors) through. One woman registers her cats under friends' names and lets them out at night to defecate in the yards nearby. She professes to be an animal lover, but her neighbors' rights and feelings don't seem to matter. Some confine their dogs all day long and let them run loose at night, or worse, they keep them chained up and barking all night long. Numerous public health and safety issues are related to this proposed change which I support. 2) A prohibition on parking RV'S in front driveways is long overdue. Besides being unsightly, the RV'S block the view of other people backing out of driveways or driving along the street, not to mention endangering children playing or on bicycles. More and more people are parking RV'S, trucks, SUV'S, and cars in their driveways. My entire fence gave way a few years back when one neighbor tried to squeeze his truck and camper into a driveway never designed for such enormous vehicles. Some are parking their RV'S (as big as a city bus) on the street! Some are parking across sidewalks and in yards. Some are paving their yards to make more room for parking their "toys." And the same people who can afford all of these expensive recreational vehicles (and the license, fees, and insurance) are the same ones who are complaining about paying a fee to park them in an appropriate location. They are ruining our neighborhoods. As an aside, I have also noticed that people have begun to leave mattresses, beds, couches, and other discarded household items in front of their houses or on the curbs - some remaining there for several days or indefinitely. Ray said it best, "Tell your mama, tell your pa, I'm gonna send you back to Arkansas!" Please, do what is best for all citizens of Riverside. Thank you for your consideration. C.J. Scott

*C.J. Scott  
2-24-05*

RECEIVED  
FEB 24 2005





AMERICAN  
KENNEL CLUB<sup>SM</sup>

February 28, 2005

Mr. David Agnew  
Chairperson  
Riverside Planning Commission  
3900 Main Street  
Riverside, CA 92522

RE: General Plan Revisions

Dear Mr. Agnew:

Concerned dog owners in the City of Riverside recently contacted the American Kennel Club regarding a proposal that dramatically affects their ability to own dogs. We respectfully write to you on their behalf.

The American Kennel Club, established in 1884 to promote the study, breeding, exhibiting, and advancement of purebred dogs, now represents over 4,500 dog clubs nationally, including 479 clubs in the state of California. The American Kennel Club supports sound, enforceable, non-discriminatory legislation to govern dog ownership. We understand that it can be a rather daunting task to formulate legislation that will allow the responsible citizen to enjoy a myriad of activities with his/her dog while at the same time protecting all people from the actions of irresponsible dog owners. We believe, however, that this is an attainable goal.

We understand that the City of Riverside is considering changes in the General Plan which would limit the number of dogs, cats and pot bellied pigs on a single residential lot. While the AKC recognizes that animal control may currently be an issue of concern for your community, we disagree with limiting animal ownership. Not only are limit laws easily evaded and difficult to enforce, they fail to address the heart of animal control problems--irresponsible ownership. Effective implementation of existing leash and curbing laws would prevent pet owners from allowing their animals to run loose, while clean-up ordinances would require owners to take responsibility for their pets.

The AKC believes the answer to animal control issues is strict enforcement of current laws, rather than passage of new burdensome regulation. The key to resolving this issue is to implement and expand the wide range of programs available to educate the public about responsible breeding practices and responsible dog ownership. The AKC offers a wealth of material on these subjects, and we would be happy to provide you with more information in this regard.

Chairman McQuiston  
June 11, 2004  
Page 2

As you and the members of Planning Commission consider this ordinance, the American Kennel Club and your constituent dog owners are willing to assist you in developing reasonable animal control regulations designed to ensure that dogs and their owners remain respected members of their communities. We invite you to take advantage of our public education programs, and we respectfully urge you not to proceed with this proposal.

We look forward to working with you as this issue progresses.

Sincerely,



Sarah R. Sprouse  
Program Administrator, Canine Legislation

cc: Members of the Riverside Planning Commission  
Riverside Kennel Club  
Mr. John Welsh, Riverside Press Enterprise  
Mr. Mark Coast, Riverside Press Enterprise

**From:** "Craig & Deidre Stowell" <cdstowell@sbcglobal.net>  
**To:** <city\_clerk@riversideca.gov>  
**Date:** 02/16/2005 9:23:16 PM  
**Subject:** Plan to Limit the Number of Animals/Household in the City of Riverside

Hi There,

This email is to let you know that my husband and I are very much opposed to the plan to limit the number of animals/household in the city of Riverside. For a number of years we have volunteered for the Riverside City/County Animal Control Services and for the Riverside Humane Society. During that time we have rescued a number of elderly, sick, crippled animals that would otherwise have been destroyed. Needless to say our household exceeds the new proposed limit. Each one of my cats and dogs has been neutered and is well taken care of. I urge you not to change the present law which does not put limits on the number of pets that can reside in each household. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact me at 951.686.3854.

Sincerely

Deidre Stowell  
5518 Malvern Way  
Riverside, CA 92506

FEB 17 2005

RIVERSIDE CITY  
DEPARTMENT

**Diane Jenkins - Plan to Limit the Number of Animals/Household in the City of Riverside**

**From:** "Craig & Deidre Stowell" <cdstowell@sbcglobal.net>  
**To:** <dijenkins@riversideca.gov>  
**Date:** 02/17/2005 1:56:49 PM  
**Subject:** Plan to Limit the Number of Animals/Household in the City of Riverside

Hi There,

This email is to let you know that my husband and I are very much opposed to the plan to limit the number of animals/household in the city of Riverside. For a number of years we have volunteered for the Riverside City/County Animal Control Services and for the Riverside Humane Society. During that time we have rescued a number of elderly, sick, crippled animals that would otherwise have been destroyed. Needless to say our household exceeds the new proposed limit. Each one of my cats and dogs has been neutered and is well taken care of. I have never had a single complaint about barking or they're being considered a nuisance. I urge you not to change the present law which does not put limits on the number of pets that can reside in each household. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact me at 951.686.3854.

Sincerely

Deidre Stowell  
5518 Malvern Way  
Riverside, CA 92506

**From:** Mark Upshaw <mdu59@juno.com>  
**To:** <dijenkins@riversideca.gov>  
**Date:** 02/17/2005 2:01:18 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Fw: Riverside planning

To: Diane Jenkins

Re: Riverside Zoning

I'm opposed to any change in the Planning and Zoning Ordinances which would limit the number of dogs or animals.

I moved to Riverside 6 years ago because there was no limit for dogs. I enjoy the agriculture nature of my neighborhood. I compete in many Dog Sports, agility obedience, herding, carting, etc. Many of my fellow dog enthusiasts also reside in Riverside. We are very responsible dog owners and take great care of our animals and in not being a nuisance to our neighbors.

Please leave things the way they are.

Mark Upshaw  
10586 Arlington Ave  
951-359-0247

**To: Diane Jenkins**

**Re: Riverside Zoning**

I only recieved a few hours notice of the planning meeting dedicated to eliminate pet owners in Riverside. I was unable to attend the meeting but I believed that if we sent an e-mail or fax that it would be read. Someone who was there informed me that no such reading of e-mails was done. Were our e-mails thrown away? Was the silence about the meeting an underhanded attempt to keep us from attending? Does the planning committee deal behind closed doors in a corrupt manner? If you are going to make laws that affect dog owners, shouldn't ALL dog owners be notified? Do I have to contribute to someones political campaign to be heard? How much money does it take? And why is the planning commission considering this law in the 1st place? Who's idea was it and what is their agenda?

**Mark Upshaw  
10586 Arlington Ave**

On Thu, 17 Feb 2005 14:02:06 -0800 Mark Upshaw <mdu59@iuno.com> writes:

> **To: Diane Jenkins**

>

> **Re: Riverside Zoning**

>

> **I'm opposed to any change in the Planning and Zoning Ordinances**

> **which would limit the number of dogs or animals.**

>

> **I moved to Riverside 6 years ago because there was no limit for**

> **dogs. I enjoy the agriculture nature of my neighborhood. I compete**

> **in many Dog Sports, agility obedience, herding, carting, etc. Many**

> **of my fellow dog enthusiasts also reside in Riverside. We are very**

> **responsible dog owners and take great care of our animals and in not**

> **being a nuisance to our neighbors.**

>

> **Please leave things the way they are.**

>

> **Mark Upshaw**

> **10586 Arlington Ave**

>